

LIBRARY

HEALTH
21 OCT 1946
D.M.

Borough of Rugby.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1945,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa :

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET.

1946.

1, MILVERTON HILL,
LEAMINGTON SPA.

July, 1946.

To the Rugby Borough Council.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1945, this is the 27th Annual Report I have presented to you.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is only a short statement of fact. The restrictions with respect to paper and printing still remain, and it will not be possible this time to give all the details of activities during the past year.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the members of the Council and my colleagues.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Rugby.

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1945	...	...	42,820
Birth Rate	...	...	19.2
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	20
Death Rate	...	...	10.0
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	{ From Sepsis	...	1
	„ other causes		1
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	46
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			49
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	15
Death from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...		4

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. *Public Health Officers.*—Since October, 1944, when Mr. Henderson resigned, it has been impossible to make any temporary appointments, and in consequence, the work of the Sanitary Inspectors' Department has been restricted to that which the Chief Inspector and his Deputy have been able to carry out. Both these officers had considerable war-time duties superimposed upon their ordinary work, and in consequence their year has been one of strain comparable with some of the worst periods of the war.

The position eased slightly when Mr. S. H. West returned from H.M. Forces on the 28th November, 1945, having accepted Class B release which had been offered in consequence of the Council's application.

6. *Laboratory Facilities.*—The following Table shows the number of bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.		Negative.		Total.
Diphtheria ...	2	...	84	...	86
Enteric Fever...	—	...	—	...	—
Tuberculosis ...	6	...	14	...	20
					106

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) *Water.*—The general position during the year has been satisfactory, and at all times a regular and satisfactory supply has been furnished.

Sixteen samples of water supplied for domestic consumption have been examined during the year, and satisfactory results were obtained.

It is now possible to divulge that during the war an additional source of supply had to be obtained from the Cosford Feeder of the Canal Company, and was arranged with the sanction of the Ministry of Health.

The total quantity of water supplied has risen from the daily average of 1,510,000 in 1939 to 2,012,000 gallons in 1945.

Owing to the variation of the raw water a constant watch has been kept on the supply in order to ensure that efficient filtration and treatment was being carried out.

(2) *Drainage and Sewerage.*—The two sewage disposal works have had to carry a serious overload during the war years, but at no time have they given cause for real anxiety, the effluents being maintained on a satisfactory condition.

It has not been possible to carry out any sewer extension and, accordingly, the cleansing of pail closets has had to be continued.

2. (1) *Public Cleansing.*—The normal fortnightly collection of domestic refuse was adhered to and, in spite of difficulties, the work was carried out efficiently.

The amount of salvage collected has dropped slightly below that of peak periods, but it has been maintained at a satisfactory level.

The scavenging of streets has been carried out by the employment of old-age pensioners. The town has presented a tidy appearance at all times.

(2) *Swimming Baths*.—The Open-Air and Closed Swimming Baths have been maintained. The purity of the water shows that efficient treatment has been carried out.

D. HOUSING.

General Observations.—No systematic house-to-house inspections have been carried out.

The total number of dwellinghouses inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts during the year was 327, and the number of visits made for the purpose was 471. In consequence of 216 notices served in respect of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, 151 houses were rendered fit.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—During the year the following samples were taken :—

- (1) 23 pasteurised milks.
9 sterilised milks.
126 ordinary milks for bacteriological examination.
- (2) 10 ordinary milks for biological examination.
61 milks for chemical analysis.

Results of the examinations or analyses :—

- (1) 11 pasteurised. Satisfactory.
9 sterilized. „
42 ordinary. „
12 pasteurised. Not satisfactory.
84 ordinary. „
- (2) 9 gave negative results and one positive.
- (3) 60 were genuine and one deficient in fat.

The vendors and producers of the unsatisfactory samples submitted for bacteriological examinations were notified of the results and given advice in methods of clean milk production.

(b) *Meat Inspection*.—All slaughtering for Rugby and district has been carried out at the Ministry of Food Cattle Market Slaughterhouses, and all condemned meat and offals have been sent by the Ministry to a waste utilisation plant at Northampton.

It is necessary for an Inspector to be on duty during the whole of the time that slaughtering is taking place, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Mr. Masi act as Meat Inspectors for the Ministry. The centralisation of slaughtering has helped in the inspection of meat in the town, and the following is a summary of the animals slaughtered and the meat condemned during the year:—

	<i>Beasts. Cows, Sheep. Pigs. Calves. Total.</i>					
<i>Animals slaughtered and carcasses inspected</i> ...	2,206	614	12,591	451	2,485	18,347
<i>Meat Condemned.</i>						
<i>Tuberculosis.</i>						
Whole carcasses...	11	33	—	4	5	53
Part carcasses and/or organs	229	161	—	21	7	418
% of animals affected ...	10.88	31.59	—	5.54	0.48	2.56
<i>Other diseases.</i>						
Whole carcasses...	8	9	68	5	25	115
Part carcasses and/or organs	336	99	186	20	9	650
% of animals affected ...	15.59	17.59	2.02	5.54	1.36	4.16
% of total of animals affected	26.47	49.18	2.02	11.08	1.84	6.72

Weight of Meat condemned in pounds.

	<i>Whole Carcasses.</i>		<i>Part Carcasses.</i>		<i>Organs (estimated).</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Beasts ...	7,220	...	2,834	...	15,525	...	25,579
Cows ...	18,007	...	1,584	...	10,001	...	29,592
Sheep ...	2,837	...	762	...	834	...	4,433
Pigs ...	1,014	...	673	...	298	...	1,985
Calves ...	1,386	...	68	...	367	...	1,821
	30,464	...	5,921	...	27,025	...	63,410

Making a total of 28 tons 6 cwts. and 18 lbs.

(c) *Bakehouses.*—There are 26 bakehouses, including factory bakehouses, on the Register, and these have been visited and supervised and are generally well maintained and kept in a clean condition.

(d) *Food and Drugs Act, 1938*.—The Corporation are responsible for the administration of this Act, and during the year 180 samples have been taken by the Sampling Officers of the Corporation and submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis. One hundred and seventy samples were reported upon as being genuine and ten samples as not genuine.

No proceedings were instituted, informal action being considered to be appropriate and effective.

VI. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Disease since 1936.

		Smallpox	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1937	...	—	71	163	—	84	—	22
1938	...	—	37	55	4	33	—	16
1939	...	—	5	37	—	53	—	14
1940	...	—	37	144	—	60	—	14
1941	...	—	49	94	2	85	—	8
1942	...	—	13	66	—	61	—	17
1943	...	—	13	43	—	80	—	7
1944	...	—	4	90	2	56	—	8
1945	...	—	3	89	2	50	—	10

Reference to Table III. will give the age incidence of the cases notified during 1945.

Smallpox.—No cases were notified during the year.

Diphtheria.—During the past year there were 3 cases notified, with no deaths.

All the cases were taken to the Isolation Hospital.

One case was an adult and one of the children had been immunised 3 years before at a Private School.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—Continued during the year and at the end of 1945, 3,820 school children had been treated and 2,375 under school age, giving a total of 6,195.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases was much the same as in 1944; more than half the cases occurred in the last quarter of the year and were well distributed throughout the town. 70 cases went to Hospital.

School Closures.—Nil.

Non-notifiable Infectious Disease.—There was nothing of special note.

Notifications of infectious disease occurring amongst the children at school is duly sent by the teachers.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	—	1	—	...	1
1	...	...	...	1	—	...	—	—
5	...	...	...	3	2	...	6	3
15	...	...	...	4	14	...	2	2
25	...	...	...	7	7	...	2	—
35	...	...	...	3	5	...	—	—
45	...	...	...	7	1	...	—	—
55	...	...	...	4	2	...	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	...	3	—	...	—	—
TOTALS	...	...	...	32	31	...	11	6
	...	...	...	—	—	...	—	—

During the past year there have been notified 80 cases. In 63 cases the lungs were affected, and the remaining 17 the disease affected other parts of the body.

Of the 80 new cases notified during the past year, 12 have died during the year.

Tuberculosis.—The following table shows the number of notifications and deaths during the past 20 years:—

	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Cases ...	36	31	25	26	35	38	37
Deaths...	21	22	13	19	15	25	38
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Cases ...	42	41	45	47	49	58	46
Deaths...	24	25	31	22	22	22	30
	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	
Cases ...	57	67	66	62	70	80	
Deaths...	30	22	24	19	28	31	

Treatment.—During the past year 52 cases have been admitted to a Sanatorium for treatment.

38 cases were discharged after treatment.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Council
of the Borough of Rugby.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your information my report on the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors in the year 1945.

Table I. shows that part of the work which can be usefully summarised and tabulated.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year notifications were received in respect of 191 cases of infectious diseases, details of which are set out in Table III.

The accommodation at the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Harborough Magna has been adequate for all requirements, and the following summary shows how the cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever were nursed :—

		<i>Diphtheria.</i>		<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>	
At Harborough Magna	...	...	5	...	77
Nursed at Home	...	...	—	...	18
		—		—	
		5		...	95
		—		—	

The motor vehicle which is provided in connection with infectious disease has covered a distance of 2,980.6 miles and continues to give satisfactory service.

The total number of visits made by the Sanitary Assistant was 1,628 in connection with infectious disease prevention and other duties.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

All slaughtering for the area is now under the control of the Ministry of Food at the Cattle Market Slaughterhouses. The total number of animals slaughtered for the year was 18,347. Complete inspection was carried out.

UNSOUND FOOD.

All meat condemned at the Slaughterhouses has been sent for salvage to a waste utilisation plant. A detailed statement of meat condemned is given in the report by the Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES.

The premises registered under the Factories Act, 1937, number 215, of which 26 are bakehouses. For classification of the remainder see the report for 1938.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The number of persons on the registers as retail purveyors was 44, as wholesale purveyors and producers 27, making a total of 71.

There were 24 registered cowkeepers and 48 dairies within the Borough.

Premises visited were found generally to be satisfactory, but action was necessary by this Department in six instances. Action taken resulted in improvement in five Cases, one being in abeyance at the end of the year.

<i>Samples taken.</i>	<i>Results.</i>
158 milks for bacteriological examination.	96 unsatisfactory.
10 milks for biological examination.	62 satisfactory.
	9 gave negative results.
	1 gave a positive result.

Of the samples taken for bacteriological examination 23 were of pasteurised milk and 9 of sterilized milk. Eleven of the pasteurised milks were satisfactory and 12 unsatisfactory. This was the subject of special report during the year. All the sterilized milk was satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The total number of samples submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis was 180, of which 10 were unsatisfactory. The articles sampled were as follows :—

Antiseptic Jelly 1, Arrowroot 1, Butter 3, Bronchial Mixture 1, Baking Powder 3, Boracic Powder 1, B.K. Tablets 1, Borax 1, Betalax 1, Bronchial Tablets 1, Cake Flour 7, Camphorated Oil 2, Curry Powder, 4, Cheese 2, Chewing Nuts 1, Coffee 5, Calamine Lotion 2, Cocoa 1, Coffee Essence 1, Cinnamon 1, Egg Substitute Powder 1, Eucalyptus 2, Elixir Jaffol 1, Flour 7, Fish Cakes 2, Gelatine 5, Golden Raisin Powder 1, Glycerine and Borax 1, Glycerine 3, Gin 1, Honey 1, Hollway's Ointment 1, Iodized Salt 1, Iodized Throat Tablets 2, Jam 1, Lard 3, Lanoline 1, Lemon Cheese 2, Milk 61, Malt Vinegar 3, Mustard 4, Malted Milk Tablets 2, Magnesia 1, Malt and Cod Liver Oil 1, Marmalade 1, Mincemeat 2, Muscat 1, Pork Sausage Meat 2, Polony 1, Port Wine 3, Rheumatic Tablets 1, Ruby Wine 1, Sage and Onion Stuffing 1, Sausage 3, Suet 2, Tonic Tablets 2, Tonic Wine 1, Tea 1, Vitmar 1, Whooping Cough Elixir 1, Wine 1, Whisky 3, Yorkshire Pudding Mixture 3, Zinc and Boracic Powder 1.

MANUFACTURE OF PRESERVED AND POTTED FOODS.

The register of premises used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, sausage meat or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat, fish or other food intended for sale, required by the Rugby Corporation Act, 1933, shows that 55 premises are so registered. Twenty-eight of these are butchers, 17 fish friers and 10 premises where food is prepared.

All premises visited were found to be clean and in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

RAG FLOCK ACTS.

There is little rag flock used in the Borough in the manufacture or repair of upholstery or bedding.

During the year no samples were submitted for analysis.

HOUSING ACTS.

All work has been curtailed owing to war conditions, and action has been restricted to work under Section 9. Under this Section 125 houses have been inspected and 88 informal and 3 formal notices served with respect to defects found. In consequence of this action 52 houses were rendered fit for human habitation.

RIVER POLLUTION.

Little change has taken place during the year in the general condition of the River Avon within the Borough. There were two occasions when an accidental discharge of industrial waste caused some deterioration in the appearance of the bed. The matter was taken up vigorously by the Severn Fisheries Board, the County Council and your officers, and a recurrence of the trouble is unlikely.

CANAL BOATS.

No inspections have been carried out.

GENERAL.

The following observations and inspections not recorded in Table I. are worthy of note :—

Public Sewers...	...	...	...	155
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	135
Factories Act	...	...	...	6
Food Premises	...	...	...	462
Interviews	...	...	...	252
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	143
Shops Acts	...	...	...	1
Sampling	...	...	...	354
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	235

No improvement in the staff position occurred until very late in the year, when Mr. S. H. West returned on the 28th November, 1945, having accepted Class B release from H.M. Forces.

The general situation in regard to housing repairs has become more and more difficult owing to material and labour shortages, and there seems little prospect of appreciable improvement in the situation. I shall continue to do the best I can under the circumstances.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BARTLETT,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.

BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1945.

	Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
		Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	471	5	127	77
Cowsheds	30	—	4	3
Lodging Houses	10	—	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	15	—	—	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	42	—	2	2
Bakehouses	14	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses	751	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	189	4	80	74
Water-closets	25	—	—	—
House Drainage	89	—	—	—
Water Supply	13	—	—	—
Pigsties	18	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept... ..				
Smoke Nuisances	9	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	94	—	1	1
TOTALS	1770	9	214	157

Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food (except meat)	282
Samples of Food taken for analysis	180
Samples of Food found adulterated	10
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	—
Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use	—

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding, etc., Disinfected or Destroyed ...	392
Rooms of houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	166
Schools Disinfected after cases of Infectious Diseases ...	—

T. BARTLETT,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1945 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1939	39,190	534	14.0	19	36	459	11.6
1940	41,670	578	13.9	28	48	508	12.2
1941	44,180	690	15.6	31	44	487	11.0
1942	43,770	705	17.1	22	31	419	9.6
1943	43,540	856	19.6	33	39	462	10.6
1944	43,930	885	20.0	30	34	406	9.3
1945	42,820	823	19.2	38	46	429	10.0

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1945.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1945.
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

				Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	...	...	16.1	0.46	11.4	46	
126 Great Towns, including London			19.1	0.58	13.5	54	
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	19.2	0.53	12.3	43	
London	...	...	15.7	0.40	13.8	53	

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1945.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	3			2	1				3	
Erysipelas	13	1				1	5	6		
Scarlet Fever	89	2	24	54	7	2			70	
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever	2		1			1				
Pneumonia	50	6	7	4	5	6	8	14		29
Malaria										
Dysentery	23	1	10	4	5	3				
Puerperal Pyrexia	10				1	9				1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	4	1			1	1	1			1
Poliomyelitis										
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1								
Polio-Encephalitis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	63		1	5	18	22	14	3		28
Other forms of Tuberculosis	17		2	9	4	2				3
Totals	275	12	45	80	42	47	28	23	73	62

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1945.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	223	206
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	1
5 Diphtheria	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	18	10
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	3
8 Syphilitic Diseases	2	—
9 Influenza	—	—
10 Measles	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	—	4
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	5	1
15 Cancer of Breast	—	12
16 Cancer, other Sites	19	13
17 Diabetes	5	1
18 Intra Cran. Vaso. Lesions... ..	19	23
19 Heart Disease	33	36
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	13	8
21 Bronchitis	8	10
22 Pneumonia	18	11
23 Other Resp. Diseases	4	6
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	6	—
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	3	1
26 Appendicitis	1	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases	7	9
28 Nephritis	6	1
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	1
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	1
31 Premature Birth	3	3
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	10	9
33 Suicide	3	2
34 Road Traffic Accidents	4	1
35 Other Violent Causes	6	4
36 All Other Causes	29	34

